

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-11 are pending in this application.

The Office Action withdraws claims 7 and 9 from consideration due to the finality of the election of species requirement.

By this Amendment, claims 1-5, 8 and 9 are amended. Claim 7 is canceled.

Reconsideration of the application in light of the foregoing claim amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge consideration of the references listed on, and to return initialed copy of, the Form PTO-1449 submitted in the September 20, 2005, Information Disclosure Statement. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the September 20, 2005, Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over JP 2001-305585 to Akihiro et al. ("Akihiro"); rejects claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,330,044 to Murade ("Murade"); and rejects claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Akihiro further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,525,787 to Sato ("Sato"), and over Murade further in view of Sato, respectfully. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 2, as amended, recite, among others, a first light shielding film formed in an image display region, and a second light shielding film formed in a peripheral region, the first light shielding film completely overlapping the source, drain and channel regions of a first switching element, the second light shielding film being divided into separate sections with the channel region of the second switching element as a boundary between the separate regions. See the specification at, for example, Figs. 6 and 7. Akihiro, Murade and Sato, either individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest these features.

In particular, Akihiro discloses a device having an external light shielding layer 6 that covers a peripheral area of the device. See Fig. 1. However, Akihiro does not disclose or suggest a light shielding film divided into separate sections with the channel region of a switching element as a boundary between the separate sections. Therefore, Akihiro does not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 1 and 2.

Murade discloses a light shielding layer 7 that completely overlaps the source region 46, the drain region 47, and the channel region 52, 53 of a switching element in a peripheral driving circuit. See Figs. 35A and 35B. Murade does not disclose or suggest a light shielding film divided into separate sections with the channel region of a switching element as a boundary between the separate sections. Therefore, Murade does not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 1 and 2.

Sato discloses a light shielding layer 31 that is divided into separate regions. See Fig. 1B. However, the switching element 31 is formed in the image display region. See Fig. 1A. Sato does not disclose or suggest a light shielding layer in a peripheral region that is divided into separate sections. Therefore, Sato does not disclose or suggest a second light shielding film formed in the peripheral region that is divided into separate sections with the channel region of a second switching element as a boundary between the separate sections, as recited in claims 1 and 2. Therefore, Sato does not supply the subject matter lacking in Akihiro and Murade.

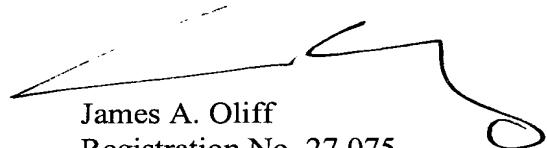
For at least the above reasons, Akihiro, Murade and Sato, either individually or in combination, do not disclose the subject matter recited in claims 1 and 2, and claims 3-6 and 8-11 depending therefrom. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6, 8, 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claim 9 is patentable at least in view of the patentability of claim 1, from which it depends, as well as for additional features it recites. Accordingly, rejoinder of claim 9 is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-6 and 8-11 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Gang Luo  
Registration No. 50,559

JAO:GXL/rle

Attachment:

Copy of September 20, 2005, Form PTO-1449

Date: November 17, 2005

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83) <b>PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE</b> INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)			ATTY DOCKET NO. 118328	APPLICATION NO. 10/765,056		
			APPLICANT(S) Hiroaki MOCHIZUKI			
			FILING DATE January 28, 2004	GROUP 2871		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS
	1	JP A 2000-193961 (w/English Abstract and English Trans.)	07/14/2000	Japan		
	2	JP A 2002-221738 (w/English Abstract and Partial English Trans.)	08/09/2002	Japan		
	3	JP A 2001-100251 (w/English Abstract and English Trans.)	04/13/2001	Japan		
	4	JP A 02-211672 (w/English Abstract)	08/22/1990	Japan		
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>						
<b>EXAMINER</b>					<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>	
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.						